

## THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 1, 2010

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"BLOOMSDAY" FESTIVITIES CELEBRATED AT SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY Fans Around the World Raise a Pint in Honor of Famous Novel "Ulysses"

**San Diego**, **CA.** The San Diego Public Library will commemorate Bloomsday, the international celebration of Irish writer James Joyce and his monumental novel *Ulysses*, with a series of events that will include music, dance, film, noon hour drama performance, and a lecture discussion between, Monday, June 14 and Wednesday, June 16 at the Central Library located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. All events are free and open to the public.

Bloomsday is a global cultural phenomenon celebrated every year on June 16th, when Joyceans around the world open a book and raise a pint in Dublin and elsewhere to celebrate Joyce's legacy and relive the events in *Ulysses*, which take place on that single day, June 16, 1904. The name commemorates Leopold Bloom, the doubly immortal protagonist of the novel. International Bloomsday celebrations include readings, drama, pub crawls, marathon races, Broadway performances, costumes, street festivals, and general merriment.

2010 Bloomsday events at the Central Library include:

- Monday, June 14, 12:30 pm, Central Library Lobby (first floor)
  Noon Hour Brown Bag Performance: MOLLY BLOOM'S SOLILOQUY, Part 1
  Award-winning equity theater company Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company performs a staged reading of the 18<sup>th</sup> and final chapter of *Ulysses*. The Soliloquy is a compilation of the thoughts of Molly Bloom, the randy, concert-singing wife of protagonist Leopold Bloom, whose wanderings around Dublin are followed in much of the book.
- Monday, June 14, 5:30 pm, Central Library Lobby (first floor)
  Irish Music and Dance: RAGGLE TAGGLE AND ROSE-RITCHIE ACADEMY
  Raggle Taggle's unique brand of music is a mix of traditional and inspired sounds from
  Pirate music to French Gypsy Swing to Latin Jazz, and Nuevo-Flamenco, to Celtic -Irish,
  English, Welsh, Scottish, French, and European Influence. The Rose-Ritchie Academy
  of Irish Dance offers traditional Irish dance instruction for boys and girls ages 4 through
  adults.

• Monday, June 14, 6:30 pm, Central Library 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room Film Screening: JOYCE TO THE WORLD

What makes Ulysses so compelling that it continues to attract devoted readers almost 100 years after its publication? This film explores Bloomsday phenomenon celebrated every year on June 16th, the day the novel takes place. Extensive biographical footage and commentary with award-winning actors, writers and scholars bring audiences inside the artist's mind and explain why so many are drawn to his work. Dr. Larry Brunton, professor of pharmacology at UCSD and Ulysses aficionado, will lead a Q&A following the screening of the film.

- Tuesday, June 15, 12:30 pm, Central Library Lobby (first floor)
   Noon-hour Brown Bag Performance: MOLLY BLOOM'S SOLILOQUY, Part 2
   Award-winning equity theater company Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company performs a staged reading of the 18th and final chapter of Ulysses. The Soliloquy is a compilation of the thoughts of Molly Bloom, the randy, concert-singing wife of protagonist Leopold Bloom, whose wanderings around Dublin are followed in much of the book.
- Wednesday, June 16, 12:30 pm, Central Library Lobby (first floor)
  Noon-hour Brown Bag Performance: MOLLY BLOOM'S SOLILOQUY, Part 3
  Award-winning equity theater company Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company performs a staged reading of the 18<sup>th</sup> and final chapter of *Ulysses*. The Soliloquy is a compilation of the thoughts of Molly Bloom, the randy, concert-singing wife of protagonist Leopold Bloom whose wanderings around Dublin are followed in much of the book. The final words of the soliloquy are some of the most admired in the English language.
- Wednesday, June 16, 6:30 pm, Central Library Wangenheim Room (third floor)
   Literature Talk: James Joyce's ULYSSES
   Published in 1922, Ulysses is one of the most important books of the modern era, a novel that changed the shape of literature. Based loosely on Homer's Odyssey, the novel details the lives of its three main characters in a single day in Dublin in 1904. In its larger historical frame, Ulysses tells the story of modern psychological homelessness, Irish colonialism, racial intolerance, the rise of commercialization, and changing gender roles. Professor Michael Davidson of UCSD's Literature Department will discuss Ulysses and James Joyce's legacy.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at <a href="https://www.sandiegolibrary.org">www.sandiegolibrary.org</a>.